

**The Annual Meeting of the Saylesville Fire District was held on March 3, 2014 at the Wesley Methodist Church, 55 Woodland Street, Lincoln, RI. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Robert Oster, Moderator. Present were all**

**Warden's of the District as well as Treasurer, Tax Collector, Clerk and Atty. Lou Desimone.**

**A motion was made by Bruce Andrews and seconded by Ms. Shay to dispense with the reading of the March 4, 2013 minutes. Motion passed.**

**Treasurer Raymond Neves reported that the fund balance of the Saylesville Fire District was \$392,260.00 as of January 1, 2013 was \$392,260.00. Receipts is \$694,971.09; interest on deposits is 71.76, grants and borrowings, 3,166.25; Miscellaneous, 2,670.80; tax sale redemption 11,004.15 for a total receipts of \$711,884.05.**

**Expenses consisted of personnel, \$457,843.59; services and utilities \$19,015;**

**supplies and materials, 10,394.69; maintenance, 36,705.85; insurance 32,185; capital outlay which is new purchases of equipment 5,877.08; miscellaneous, 13,080.06; notes, leases with interest, 112,333; and tax sales redemption, \$11,004.15 for total expenses of \$698,438.42,**

**Ending balance as of December 31, 2013 of \$405,706.62. and that is represented by Blackstone River Federal Credit Union money market**

account, \$28,537.36, checking of 2,112.73, savings of 4,928.53 and the Citizens bank of \$370,128.01 for a total cash accounts of \$405,706.62. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report made by Warden Robert Ferioli and seconded by Bruce Andrews. Motion passed.

The Tax Collector's report was given by David Almond. Real Estate, tangible and motor vehicle taxes collected between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013

was 694,971.09. Collected January 1, 2014 to February 28, 2014 is \$44,761.39.

Outstanding taxes for the year 2013 as of February 28, 2014 was \$145,117.50. Prior years taxes owed from 1998 to 2012 is \$112,711.15 for a total of \$270,828.65. Motion made by Stephen Tomasseti and seconded by Warden Jan Smolan to approve the Tax Collector's report. Motion passed.

Warden Robert Ferioli presented the Personnel Board report for the year 2013.

At the end of 2013 the official roster showed three full-time firefighters and 27 volunteers or call personnel. During the year two two firefighters were dropped from the roster due to lack of participation. Three firefighters are on a leave of absence and three additional firefighters have left for full-time employment with other departments. The department added six new members to the roster in 2013. Three of the six are Jr. firefighters. Motion was made by Ms. Shay to approve the report and seconded by Warden David Sale.

**Motion passed.**

**Warden Craig Wilson reported that the Warden's met monthly with the Acting Chief during 2013 for the purpose of conducting business of the Fire District and acting on the various matters related thereto.**

**On behalf of all the Residents of the District, the Board would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to the firefighters, officers and District officials for the many hours of dedicated service given over the past year.**

**The proposed budget for the year 2014 has been carefully evaluated with the Acting Chief and we believe it to be fiscally sound and realistic. We recommend its approval.**

**The Board recommends the passage of Resolution I which allows the Board of Fire Wardens to authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds in anticipation of taxes. The Board recommends the passage of Resolution II which allows the District to tax using a tiered system. The District has been using this type of system for more than 20 years. The Board recommends the passage of Resolution !!! to amend the District Charter to reflect current taxing practices. Motion made by Raymond Neves to approve the Fire Warden's report and seconded by Warden Jan Smolan. Motionn passed.**

**Deputy Chief Fisher reported that the department answered s total of**

732 alarms this year. There were 44 structure fires, 5 vehicle fires, 8 brush fires, 8 hazardous conditions, 13 water emergencies, 5 malicious false, 6 accident false, 52 alarm system malfunctions, 91, medical emergency calls 342, smoke scare calls 29, good intent calls 9, public service calls 15, standby calls 11, other fires 10, investigations 5, boat calls 3, auto accidents 21, food on the stove 45, CO investigations 12, assist the police 1, out of district calls 236. Total fire loss \$98,300.00. Motion to approve the Chief's report by Warden Ernest Lacombe and seconded by Warden Craig Wilson. Motion passed.

#### **Election of officers:**

Deputy Chief Fisher nominated Robert Oster for a 1 year term as Moderator and was seconded by Warden David Sale. The Clerk cast 1 ballot for Robert Oster.

Deputy Chief Fisher nominated David Sale for a 3 year term as Moderator and was seconded by Warden Jan Smolan. The Clerk cast 1 ballot for David Sale.

Warden Ernest Lacombe presented the proposed 2014 budget as follows: Under personnel services, salaries, permanent personnel is \$179,500.00. Overtime, \$1,500; call fund/fire drill, \$18,000; part-time personnel, \$100,000; Tax Collector \$7,500; Treasurer's salary \$2,100; officials and others \$3,500; payroll expense, FICA \$22,500; medical

insurance \$91,000, training \$5,000,  
medical insurance \$91,000.00, training \$5,000.00; payroll fees \$2,350;  
pension  
\$47,200 for a total of \$480,150.00.

#### **Services and utilities:**

Printing and postage, \$4000; computer service \$3750; association  
dues \$1500;  
telephone \$1900; water \$300; building heat and gas \$5600; electric  
\$5400; Narragansett Bay Commission \$1,000; cable television \$350;  
for a total of services and utilities of \$23,800.

Supplies and materials. Apparatus fuel, \$8,500; supplies and  
maintenance \$3750 for a total of supplies and materials \$12,250.00

Maintenance-trucks and station alarm, \$30,000.

Insurance-Building \$8250; vehicles \$9000; accident and health  
\$17500; workers compensation \$250 for a total of \$35000.

Capital outlay-Station Alarm equipment \$8000.

Miscellaneous-Bank fees and service charges \$0; professional  
fees-\$10,000; firefighters expense \$3000; fire prevention \$1500; total  
\$14,500.

**Notes leases and interest-station \$47,833; ladder truck \$64,500 for a total of \$112,333. Total budget is \$707,983.00.**

**2013 budget was \$707,983 2014 budget is 1.2 percent increase.**

**Motion made by Bruce Andrews to approve the proposed budget and seconded by Warden Ernest Lacombe. Motion passed.**

**Setting the tax rate--The residential tax rate will be \$1.65, the commercial rate will be \$2.20, tangible \$3.15 and auto \$2.50. Motion to approve the tax rate by Stephen Tomasetti and seconded by Ms. Shay. Motion passed.**

**RESOLUTION FOR TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE read by Raymond Neves: Be it resolved that we, the voters of the Saylesville Fire District, assembled here on March 3, 2014, do hereby authorize the Wardens of the Saylesville Fire District to direct and authorize the Treasurer to obtain a tax anticipation note in a sum not to exceed \$50,000 during the current fiscal year should said Wardens determine that said note is advisable and necessary for the orderly and efficient operation of the Saylesville Fire District. Motion made by Craig Wilson to approve the Resolution and seconded by Jan Smolan. Motion passed,**

**Resolution Number II read by Mr. Oster: Be it resolved that we, the**

**voters of the Saylesville Fire District, assembled here on March 3, 2014, do hereby establish a three-tier tax rate for real property within the District. The rate is hereby set as follows: A rate of \$1.65 per thousand dollars for those properties designated by the town as residential; the rate of \$2.20 per thousand for those properties designated commercial; and a rate of \$3.15 for those properties designated as tangible. Motion made by Warden Ernest Lacombe to approve Resolution II and seconded by Warden Craig Wilson. Motion passed.**

**Resolution Number III read by Mr. Oster: Be it resolved that we, the voters of the Saylesville Fire District, assembled on March 3, 2014 do hereby direct, authorize and empower the Board of Fire Wardens to seek any requisite legislative action by the Rhode Island General Assembly which may be necessary in order to provide for the institution of the tiered tax system for the Saylesville Fire District commencing with the upcoming fiscal year. Said authority shall include any amendment or modification to the Legislative Charter through the passage of legislation or any separate action related thereto. The Board of Fire Wardens is further authorized and empowered to execute any documents which may be required in establishing the tiered tax system. Motion made by Deputy Chief Robert Fisher to approve the resolution and seconded by Warden Sale. Motion passed.**

**Warden Ernest Lacombe: I'd like to let the District taxpayers know**

**that there is no increase of the residential tax rate, no increase in the tangible. There is a \$.02 on commercial and there is no change to the auto tax because that is frozen by the state.**

**Motion to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. by Bruce Andrews and seconded by Warden Craig Wilson. Motion passed.**

**Respectfully submitted.**

**F. Barbara Ferioli**

**Clerk**